

## ENGLAND BOMBARDED BY SEA CRAFT

GEN. OBREGON  
LEAVING FOR  
WAR PARLEY

Chief of Carranza War Department Starts for Border for Conference.

## FUNSTON INCLUDED

Head of Expedition to Take Part in Council With General Scott.

El Paso, Texas, April 25.—General Alvaro Obregon, minister of war of the de facto government, departed from San Luis Potosi today for Juarez for his conference with Major General Hugh L. Scott of the United States army on the military questions that are now pending between the United States and Mexico. A dispatch was received today by General Gavira, commander of the Juarez garrison from General Obregon, which stated that he "had started on his journey and hoped to see him soon."

San Antonio, Texas, April 25.—General Funston will accompany General Scott to the conference with General Obregon, it was announced at departmental headquarters today.

General Funston's participation in the border negotiations was ordered by the war department and in line with the wishes of the chief of staff, who believes that the purpose of the conference will be better served if he has with him one who is more intimately acquainted with the details of the situation.

Seat of Parley Unknown.  
General Scott said he was not yet certain just where the conference would take place but both he and General Funston have taken it for granted that it will be either at El Paso or Juarez.

When Generals Scott and Funston will leave for the meeting place was not stated but it was indicated that they would remain here for two or three days. Specific instructions that will go over the conference are expected by General Scott tomorrow.

Obregon to Give Assurance.

El Paso, Texas, April 25.—Assurances that the de facto government of Mexico is prepared to cope with Villa bands in northern Chihuahua are expected to be made by General Alvaro Obregon, minister of war of the Carranza government, at his coming conference here with Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army.

General Obregon, it was learned in Mexican official circles here today, will develop his plans for policing the northern Mexican country with the hope that they will prove acceptable to General Scott. Should the plans be deemed adequate by General Scott, who will make his report to Washington, the de facto government will again renew its request that American troops be withdrawn from Mexico.

Conference Holds Interest.  
Interest in the entire Mexican situation had narrowed here today to the forthcoming conference between General Obregon, Carranza's minister of war and General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army.

With the American expeditionary force practically concentrated at two isolated points near Nampulpa and at Colonia Dublan, where it is marking time pending the diplomatic exchanges between Washington and

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MONTANA DEMOCRAT  
CHOSEN SECRETARY

Butte, Mont., April 25.—Selection of J. Bruce Kremer, democratic national committeeman from Montana, as secretary of the national democratic national committee has been made according to private advices made public here today.

Mr. Kremer, it was said, will serve as secretary of the committee until the convention meets in St. Louis in June.

## DAY IN CONGRESS

SENATE.  
Senator Shafroth urged equal suffrage amendment to the constitution.  
Resumed debate on rural credit bill.

HOUSE.  
Democratic caucus on the Philippine bill called for tomorrow.

British Guns  
Level Enemy  
Coast Towns

London, April 25.—An attack on German positions on the Belgian coast by British warships is reported in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Amsterdam. The bombardment is described as one of the heaviest in this region during the war.

The dispatch says the following message has been received in Amsterdam from Flushing:

"Several British warships, accompanied by destroyers and other vessels, yesterday bombarded Zeebrugge and the German batteries off Heyst, Blankenberghe and Knokke. The bombardment was one of the heaviest since the beginning of the war and also of the longest duration.

"The damage done at Zeebrugge is said to have been enormous. The harbor and docks were hit several times and some ships were sunk. British aircraft also threw bombs on German batteries."

## THE WAR TODAY

A German squadron raided Lowestoft, on the English east coast this morning. The warships remained in the vicinity for about twenty minutes, getting away clear after bombarding the shore and landing hits on two British light cruisers and a destroyer which engaged them.

According to the British official statement on the raid, the material damage was insignificant. The casualties reported are two men, one woman and a child killed. The British warships that were struck by German shells were not sunk, the press bureau announcement declares.

The Germans, after heavily bombarding the position, drove home three successive assaults last night in the region of Dead Man's hill, northwest of Verdun. The complete repulse of the first two attacks is claimed by Paris, which declares that the third attack, although assisted by the use of gas, also broke down, the Germans suffering severe losses in their sustained, but fruitless effort to advance.

Further to the west the German effort, an attempt to carry an advanced post at the Avocourt redoubt, failed.

The German bombardment of Dunkirk was resumed this morning, six bombs being dropped. A woman was killed and three men wounded.

Russia has sent additional troops to the western front. Another contingent arrived at Marseilles this morning. The first contingent reached Marseilles last Thursday and was sent north almost at once, presumably to the battle front.

Constantinople reports virtual cessation of the fighting along the Tigris following the defeat of the latest British attempt to advance toward Kut-el-Amara.

A raid by eight British aeroplanes on a hostile camp at Quatia in Egypt, near the Suez canal, is announced by the British authorities, who declare that the camp was destroyed.

Bulgaria has lost 87,000 men killed and 50,000 wounded or captured in her war operations, according to Bulgarian newspaper estimates.

A bombardment of German positions on the Belgian coast by British warships, described as one of the heaviest in this region during the war, is reported in a news agency dispatch from Amsterdam. The scenes of greatest activity on the French and Belgian fronts are in the region of Le Mort Homme and in the Argonne forest, with the Germans the aggressors in the former and the French in the latter sector. In these two sectors the fighting has been confined mostly to the heavy artillery, the infantry being inactive.

French aviators in squadron formation have dropped great numbers of shells on German positions.

On the eastern front the fighting between the Russians and the Germans and Austrians continues, but no advantage in positions has been reported. The same conditions prevail on the Italian-Austrian front.

The Austrians are highly incensed at the Italian aeroplane attack last Sunday on the city of Trieste, in which nine civilians were killed, five of them being children. A Vienna report says that because of this attack, "the enemy has forfeited every right to have his towns spared."

Sir Roger Casement, leader of the Irish separatist party, who is said to have negotiated with Germany concerning an invasion of Ireland, has been captured by a German ship which was sunk while trying to land arms in Ireland.

FRENCH STOP  
TRIPLE DRIVE  
OF GERMANS

Teuton Forces Make Three Distinct Charges on Dead Man's Hill.

## QUIET ALONG MEUSE

Less Activity Shown in the Verdun Region—Dunkirk in Aero Raid.

Paris, April 25. (12.01 p. m.)—Three successive attacks were made by the Germans last night on the new French positions in the region of Dead Man's Hill, on the Verdun front. The war office announcement of this afternoon says the first two assaults failed completely and that the third attack, although assisted by the use of gas, also broke down. The Germans sustained heavy losses.

Six bombs were dropped on Dunkirk this morning. A woman was killed and three men wounded.

German troops also vainly attempted last night to carry on advanced post at the redoubt of Avocourt.

On the Verdun front east of the Meuse there was less activity. Fighting with grenades occurred this morning in Apremont forest.

## French War Report.

The text of the announcement follows:

"To the west of the river Meuse yesterday evening German forces, after a violent bombardment, attacked our positions in the region of Dead Man's hill. The first assaults failed completely. The enemy started their third attack with the employment of flaming liquids. Checked by our curtains of fire and the fire of our infantry the Germans were compelled to return to their lines after having suffered important losses.

"In Lorraine we have dispersed a strong reconnoitering party of the enemy, endeavoring to occupy one of our smaller positions to the east of Neuville."

## German War Report.

Berlin, April 25 (via London, 3:56 p. m.)—Heavy fighting has been in progress for positions near Dead Man's hill, northeast of Verdun, the war office announced today. The French advanced in waves against the German trenches, but were driven back under the fire of infantry.

The text of the official statement follows:

"Western front: There has been very lively activity by the artillery and aviators on both sides.

"East of the Meuse hand grenade attacks developed during the night northeast of Avocourt.

"An attack delivered in several waves against our trenches east of Dead Man's hill broke down under our infantry fire."

12-YEAR-OLD YOUTHS  
SKILLFUL CRIMINALS

Sterling, Ill., April 25.—John Edmondson, aged 12, and Roy Bettmer, aged 11, were arrested in Rock Falls yesterday afternoon, after committing their seventh robbery in two days, and after once escaping from officers on a train traveling 50 miles an hour.

The boys started their criminal work at Freeport, where two small robberies were committed. They were arrested on board a train, but escaped while the train was going 50 miles an hour. At Dixon they committed two more robberies.

Arriving here the boys entered two places, went to Rock Falls, and were in the act of robbing the seventh place when arrested. In jail they tried to pick the locks, and later disconnected the electric wiring, and had almost sawed the bars to liberty. They were taken to Freeport yesterday evening for a hearing.

## THE WEATHER

Forecast Till 7 P. M. Tomorrow, for Rock Island, Davenport, Moline and Vicinity.

Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday; cooler tonight with probably frost.

Temperature at 7 a. m., 44. Highest yesterday, 62; lowest last night, 42.

Velocity of wind at 7 a. m., four miles per hour.

Precipitation, .95 inch.

Relative humidity at 7 p. m., 49; at 7 a. m., 89; at 1 p. m., today, 54.

Stage of water, 13.5; no change since yesterday.

J. M. SHERIER, Local Forecaster.

## CITY BEAUTIFIER'S DILEMMA

TRY TO BALK  
BERLIN SPLIT  
BY MESSAGES

German Societies Flooding Illinois Senators With "Protests."

Washington, April 25.—Twenty-five thousand telegrams protesting against action which might mean war with Germany began pouring in on Senators Sherman and Lewis of Illinois late last night and still were arriving today.

Although signed by individuals in Illinois the telegrams followed prepared forms and were prepaid. There was nothing in them to indicate who had prepared the forms for the signatures and paid the telegraph companies.

Every available operator of both companies worked all night and was working today receiving the messages which were being delivered to the senators in packages of one hundred.

The two senators will decide later whether they will present the messages to the senate.

During the day telegrams of the same sort began coming into Senators Cummins and Kenyon from Iowa and to Senators La Follette and Husting from Wisconsin. Senators were amazed at the extent of the propaganda.

Aurora, Ill., April 25.—As part of a plan for an organized protest from throughout the country against the breaking off of American relations with Germany thousands upon thousands of blank telegrams admonishing or beseeching representatives and senators against action are being circulated through this part of the state for signatures. The signers of the telegram does not pay to have the message of protest forwarded. The toll is paid by the American Truth society, Peter Hexamer, Philadelphia, president, according to Edward Seffert, a German-American of Aurora, who is among the hundreds seeking telegram signers. He said the telegrams would be sent from all parts of the United States. The blank forms were gotten out in Aurora after a meeting which was called by Father Weber, pastor of the St. Nicholas Catholic church, and a Mr. Geifert of Chicago. Mr. Geifert it was said, is a member of the American Embargo company. Peter Hexamer, publisher of the Aurora Volksfreund, a German paper, said, "It was not a meeting of Germans but of Americans who do not want war with any country but want above all things peace. I know because I was at the meeting."

The telegrams which as night letters are expected to pour into Washington in a heavy flood tomorrow, have average phraseology. Some of the forms the messages assume are:

"Rumors persistent and apparently well founded indicate intention on part of administration to break relations with Germany thus rendering war practically inevitable. Your constituents here are deeply concerned and urge you to use your utmost influence

Casement to  
be Tried for  
Treason Act

London, April 25.—It is announced officially that Sir Roger Casement was brought to London on Sunday for trial.

The announcement follows: "Sir Roger Casement, who was arrested in connection with an abortive attempt to land arms in Ireland from a German vessel, was brought to London on Sunday morning. He was met at Euston by officers from Scotland yards and is now detained in military custody. It is understood evidence of his proceedings in Germany since the outbreak of the war will be produced at his trial."

Owing probably to the British censorship, only bare facts in connection with the arrest of Sir Roger Casement and the present situation in Ireland have been made public. It was announced officially last night that an attempt was made last week to land arms and ammunition in Ireland from a German auxiliary, under the guise of a neutral merchant ship in conjunction with a German submarine. The auxiliary was sunk and a number of prisoners, including Sir Roger were taken.

Sir Roger, who was leader of the Separatist faction in Ireland, went to Berlin after the outbreak of the war with the intention, it was said, to open negotiations between the German government and the anti-English party in Ireland.

in and out of congress to prevent such enormous folly and crime."

"Your constituents joining with me in sending this message are deeply alarmed that this country is near to being plunged into the European war. You know your constituents want peace and we emphatically urge that you so express our sentiments. We know we can depend on you."

At a meeting he attended Mr. Klein, the publisher of the Aurora German paper, said, "It is no secret any longer, the reply of Germany to President Wilson's note is here, and Germany has refused to give up its submarine warfare against England."

Mr. Klein would not reveal the source of his information.

Chicago, April 25.—G. H. Jacobson, one of the leaders of the American Embargo conference in Chicago said the campaign to send telegrams advocating peace was country wide.

"It is not a campaign of Germans but of Americans who do not want war with any country," said Mr. Jacobson. "We have reports showing that 15,000 telegrams will be sent from Cincinnati, 25,000 from St. Louis, 25,000 from Detroit, 10,000 from Toledo, 15,000 from St. Paul and Minneapolis and many thousands will be sent from Chicago."

"C. J. Hexamer of Philadelphia, president of the German-American alliance has nothing whatever to do with the campaign," said Mr. Jacobson, "and this Truth society is not paying the tolls. The American Embargo conference with its 3,000 branches in as many towns in the country is financing the campaign almost wholly. The expense is paid by voluntary subscriptions from individual members of the conference."

IRISH REBEL  
BANDS BRING  
GRAVE CRISIS

Serious Uprising in Ireland Reported—Dublin Center of Trouble.

London, April 25.—Augustine Birrell, chief secretary for Ireland, announced in the house of commons today that grave disturbances broke out in Dublin yesterday. He added that troops had been sent to the Irish capital and that the situation was now well in hand.

Minister Birrell said that 12 persons had been killed before the disturbances were quelled. He declared rebels were in possession of four or five different parts of the city of Dublin. He also announced that four or five soldiers had been killed.

Mr. Birrell made his announcement in reply to a question by Commander Crang immediately after the assembling of the house. He said that the postoffice had been forcibly taken possession of and that telegraphic communication had been cut.

In the course of the day, however, Mr. Birrell said, soldiers had arrived from the Curragh and the situation was now well in hand.

The chief secretary for Ireland stated there had been arrests in Dublin but that he could not give the names. Speaking from the information he had received he could say that 12 lives had been lost. Communication with Dublin, he said, was very difficult.

At 7 o'clock last night Mr. Birrell said four or five different parts of Dublin were in possession of the rebels but he said they did not control the whole place.

At Hartlepool, Scarborough and Whitby German warships poured a hail of shells into the towns for an hour and a half and in accordance with the large number killed, 200 or more persons were wounded.

Lowestoft is the most easterly town in England, an important fishing station and a fashionable seashore resort. Its population is about thirty thousand. This town has been attacked on several occasions by German aircraft.

ZEPPELINS MAKE  
RAID ON ENGLAND

London, April 25.—Seventy bombs were dropped during last night's Zeppelin raid. One man was injured. Four or five Zeppelins, the official press bureau says, took part in the raid.

The official statement says: "Last night's air raid over the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts appears to have been carried out by four or five Zeppelins, only two of which made a serious attempt to penetrate inland."

"About seventy bombs appear to have been dropped. One man is reported seriously injured. No further details of casualties are available."

Steel Earnings Break Records.  
New York, April 25.—The total earnings of the corporation for the quarter ended March 31 last were \$60,715,624, according to the quarterly report. This breaks all records of previous earnings.

TEUTON BATTLE  
SHIPS SHELL  
BRITISH CITY

Great Guns on German War Vessels Bombard Coast of Great Britain.

## ARE DRIVEN TO SEA

English Cruisers Respond to Fire and Chase Attackers—Four Killed.

London, April 25 (12:45 p. m.)—German battle cruisers appeared off Lowestoft today. Announcement of the appearance of the German war ships was made in an official statement.

Local naval forces engaged the raiders and also British light cruisers. The German warships retreated in 20 minutes.

The German warships opened fire on the coast before departing. Two men, one woman and a child were killed. The material damage apparently was small.

Two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit but none of them was sunk.

Lowestoft is on the North Sea coast about one hundred miles to the northeast of London. It is almost opposite The Hague.

Admiralty's Statement.  
The following official statement was made:

"At about 4:30 this morning the German battle cruiser squadron, accompanied by light cruisers and destroyers, appeared off Lowestoft. The local naval forces engaged it and in about twenty minutes it returned to German, chased by our light cruisers and destroyers.

"On shore, two men, one woman and a child were killed. The material damage seems to have been insignificant, so far as is known at present. Two British light cruisers and a destroyer were hit but none was sunk."

Attacks previously have been made on the English coast during the war by German warships. The most important raid was made Dec. 16, 1914. The towns of Scarborough, Whitby and Hartlepool, 150 miles north of Lowestoft were bombarded and 130 persons were killed. The German vessels escaped.

January Attack Failed.  
On Jan. 24, 1915, a further attempt was made but the German squadron was met off Doggerbank by the British battle cruiser squadron under Vice Admiral Beatty. The Germans made for home at high speed. Their rear ship, the Bluecher, was sunk. Two other cruisers were set on fire and damaged severely. The British flagship Lion was disabled by a shot in one of her feed tanks.

First Raid Made in 1914.  
The first German raid on the British coast was made Nov. 3, 1914. Three battle cruisers, two armored cruisers and three protected cruisers at dawn appeared off Yarmouth. They bombarded Yarmouth and Lowestoft for about 20 minutes and then returned. A British submarine, the D-5, attempted to pursue the Germans but struck a mine and sank. The German cruiser York also struck a mine and went down with 300 men.

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EXPECT LIGHT VOTE  
IN OHIO ELECTION

Columbus, Ohio, April 25.—Prospects are only a light vote will be cast at Ohio's first presidential preference primaries today. What interest there is in the election centers in the opposition which has developed to Governor Frank B. Willis and former Governor James C. M. Cox, both candidates for delegates at large on the republican and democratic tickets respectively.

A late effort to put the name of Henry Ford before the voters as a candidate for president, is also attracting attention. On the printed ballots, President Wilson did not have an opponent. On the republican ticket Theodore Burton is opposed by Grant Webster of Chicago.